



BEHIND THE BADGE



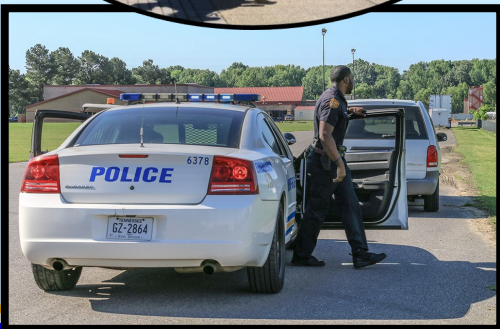
MLK50
1968 - 2018



& MPD



CONTENTS:



- 3 ERNEST C. WITHERS**
- 4 2018 MPD KNOWLEDGE BOWL**
- 5 NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION GRANT AWARDS**
- 6 NEW HOPE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY VISITS 170 NORTH MAIN**
- 7 PUT YOUR MASK ON**
- 8 UKRAINE POLICE VISIT MPD**
- 9 PIZZA AND A MOVIE**
- 10 MLK50 and MPD**
- 14 OFFICER SAFETY**
- 16 COMMUNITY SUPPORT**
- 18 GOOD BLUE**
- 19 I AM A MAN PLAZA**
- 20 NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING 2017**
- 21 DELIVERING THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS**

Ernest C. Withers

Historical Marker

Former Memphis Police Officer and world-renowned photographer Ernest C. Withers was an American photojournalist and Memphian. Ernest Withers was mostly known for his hard work and capturing over 60 years of African-American history in the South. Ernest Withers was also a historical figure in the Memphis Police Department. Withers was one of the nine African-American men that were hired as police officers in 1948. This was the first time that African-Americans were allowed to serve as police officers in the City of Memphis.



Withers profound photography captured many incidents during the Civil Rights Movement. Photographs from the Sanitation Workers' Strike are etched into the minds of many. Withers also captured many images of musicians, including those related to Memphis blues and Memphis soul.

In honor of his service to the citizens of Memphis and the world, on February 10, a historical marker was placed at 480 West Brooks Road, Memphis, TN. This was the longtime home of Ernest Withers. Memphis Police Director Rallings and other MPD Officers attended the historical marker unveiling ceremony to honor one of our own and Memphis Legend, Ernest C. Withers.



Historical marker at 480 West Brooks Road, home of the late Ernest C. Withers.



The first nine African-American MPD officers in 1948.



Ernest C. Withers' son, Andrew Withers and Retired Memphis Police Officer, Cpt. Jerry Williams.

BOWL KNOWLEDGE 2018

This year's Black History Knowledge Bowl was hosted by MPD's Community Outreach Program (C.O.P.) at First Baptist Broad Church. The day brought challenging questions about famous African-American writers, activists, musicians, athletes, performers, and forward thinkers. Each school that participated brought forth knowledge, great competition, and the willingness for success.

This event was conducted with the help of C.O.P., precinct officers, and Neighborhood Watch Coordinators. All involved spent many hours making this year's knowledge bowl a great success.

The following middle schools participated: Cordova, Whitehaven, Hollis F. Price, Kirby, Havenview, Georgian Hills, Humes Prep, City University, Ida B Wells, Lott, Craigmont, White Station, Westwood, Chickasaw, Georgian Hills and Mt Pisgah.

In the final round, four schools arose higher to gain their awards: 1st place- City University, 2nd place- Mt Pisgah, 3rd place- Cordova Middle and 4th place- Westwood Middle School.

Congratulations to this year's winners and a big thanks to all who participated!



NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME PREVENTION GRANT AWARDS

Since January, Lia Roemer and her team have worked hard throughout our community to share the great opportunities that our Neighborhood Crime Prevention Grant offers. Neighborhood Crime Prevention Grants are funded by monies



generated from red light camera systems and are used to benefit neighborhood watch organizations by providing them with \$2500 to use in conjunction with their crime-fighting initiatives. These funds are used for various projects such as adding surveillance cameras, coordinating neighborhood clean-ups, communications and monitoring projects, National Night Out events, and much more. Thus far, Lia and her team have awarded upwards of \$350,000 to 131 different neighborhoods associations.

Thank you to Lia Roemer and her team for their continued work in keeping Memphis safe.



New Hope Christian Academy

Tours 170 North Main

While on a field trip, students from Frayser's New Hope Christian Academy were walking down North Main Street when they encountered Director Michael Rallings leaving City Hall. After a brief conversation, the students were invited inside the Memphis Police Department's headquarters located at 170 North Main. The students were treated to a mini-tour guided by Director Rallings and members of the Command Staff.

First, the students viewed the MPD historical display cases located in the lobby. Next, groups of students were taken to the Executive Administration offices located on the 12th floor. There, the students were given a tour of the Director's office, Command Staff offices, and the Director's conference room. Emergency Communications Administrator, Michael Spencer, was also present and arranged a 911 dispatch radio demonstration.

At the conclusion of the tour, the students were allowed to explore the inside of an MPD squad car and were given Jr. police officer hats.

This was truly a great time. We thank New Hope Christian Academy for visiting with us.



Deputy Chief Don Crowe



911 Administrator, Michael Spencer



PUT ON YOUR MASK!

The Memphis Youth Crime Watch students at Douglass High School participated in a “Masking” their feelings project in conjunction with bringing awareness of teen violence. The students were given blank masks by Officers Cassandra Smith, Benjamin Huff, and Tommie Jones. The students' assignment was to paint each mask displaying emotions that they so often hide. Painting their mask allowed them to unmask their inner feelings and deal with their emotions in a positive manner without resulting in violence or delinquent behavior. Using a color chart, which indicated a corresponding emotion, the students painted selected colors on their mask in proportion to the strongest feeling that they were hiding or “masking”. The students also talked about their feelings and asked for solutions on how to deal with their emotions in a healthy manner.



Officer Cassandra Smith



Officer Benjamin Huff



UKRAINE POLICE

VISIT MPD

The Memphis Police Department had the pleasure of welcoming several police officers from various regions, and the State police of the eastern European nation of Ukraine. The goal of the trip was to visit Memphis in order to learn more about community policing and crime prevention efforts from the Memphis Police Department.

The group first visited the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) where they received a brief overview of the functions of the center. Next, they visited the Memphis Police Department's Training Academy and Firearms Training Unit to observe, firsthand, the training of Memphis' Finest. After leaving the academy, they visited Crime Prevention/C.O.P. The visit to Crime Prevention's Hollywood location helped to shed light on efforts that the Ukrainian PD could implement in their respective divisions. Lastly, they attended classroom instruction of MPD's 9th Clergy Academy class. The group was intrigued with the idea of working with our faith-based community in order to aid in crime prevention efforts.

This was a great experience for everyone involved. The men and women of the Memphis Police Department and the City of Memphis should be proud that your police department was selected among the best to help other departments develop better ways to serve their communities.



Visiting officers and MPD
Officer James Lash



PIZZA AND A MOVIE



Serving as great mentors, Major Myron Lawrence and Lieutenant Colonel Eddie Bass teamed up with the Greater Life Network in treating 25 children to a movie and pizza. The movie of the day, “Blank Panther”, a superhero film based on the Marvel Comics which is directed by, and features mostly African-American cast members, was a hit. It reminds our youth that hard work, dedication, and a determination to succeed will allow them to accomplish their dreams. Whether a police officer, a doctor, a teacher, or even an actor on the big screen, there are no limits.

Great job to you both for taking time out to mentor our future leaders!

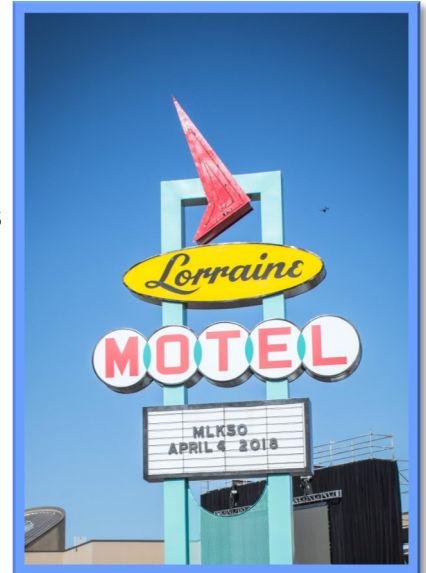


MLK50

1968 - 2018

April 4, 1968, marked one of the saddest days in our country and city's history, as it was the day that Civil Rights Leader Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was struck down in Memphis, TN by an assassin's bullet at the Lorraine Motel. For many years since this fateful day, there have been events scheduled throughout the city to honor the slain Civil Rights leader. April 2-7, 2018 was designated as a time of reflection to commemorate the legacy of the Dr. King and the 50th anniversary of his death.

Throughout the week, more than 7,000 spectators from across the county attended the MLK50 events; at The National Civil Rights Museum, the Peabody Hotel, Mason Temple, Clayborn Temple, and the Cannon Center. One of the high points of the slated events included the Commemorative Ceremony that was held at The National Civil Rights Museum. The Commemorative Ceremony was an event where dozens of speakers and thousands of participants came to honor Dr. King at the exact place where he was assassinated. There were various presentations including a ceremonial wreath laying, tributes, and performances culminating in a symbolic moment of silence at 6:01 pm-- the time Dr. King was shot while on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.



MLK50

1968 - 2018

Other significant events were the dedications of the I AM A MAN Plaza and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park. The I AM A MAN Plaza is located adjacent to Clayborn Temple near East Pontotoc Avenue and Hernando Street in downtown Memphis. This plaza honors the City's sanitation workers whose strike in 1968 brought Dr. King to Memphis, TN. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park is located at the northwest corner of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and South Second Street. Uniquely positioned a few blocks from Clayborn Temple, the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, and Beale Street. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Reflection Park will be a focal point for those seeking to understand Dr. King's impact on Memphis and the world. At this site, you will find a bronze sculpture that reflects Dr. King's famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop."

On April 6th, all scheduled events were concluded without incident. Over 300 Memphis Police Officers, Police Service Technician, dispatchers, and police recruits ensured the safety of all who attended. This is truly a testament to the collaborative work of local, state, and federal agencies working together to ensure the safety of all who chose to take part in the MLK50 commemorative events.





POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Another great night at this year's National Night Out; thank you to those who participated. National Night Out is observed annually on the first Tuesday in August. This night focuses on the community and raising awareness throughout the United States. Here in Memphis, over 120 different locations were displayed citywide. Promoting police-community partnerships and showing neighborhood camaraderie were at the forefront of each event.

Each year, members of our Neighborhood Watch Associations work hard to display a perfect setting for neighborhood fun. Without a doubt, they were yet again successful in doing so. Without the involvement of the citizens of Memphis, MPD Commanders, and officers, this event could not have been such a success. Great job to all!





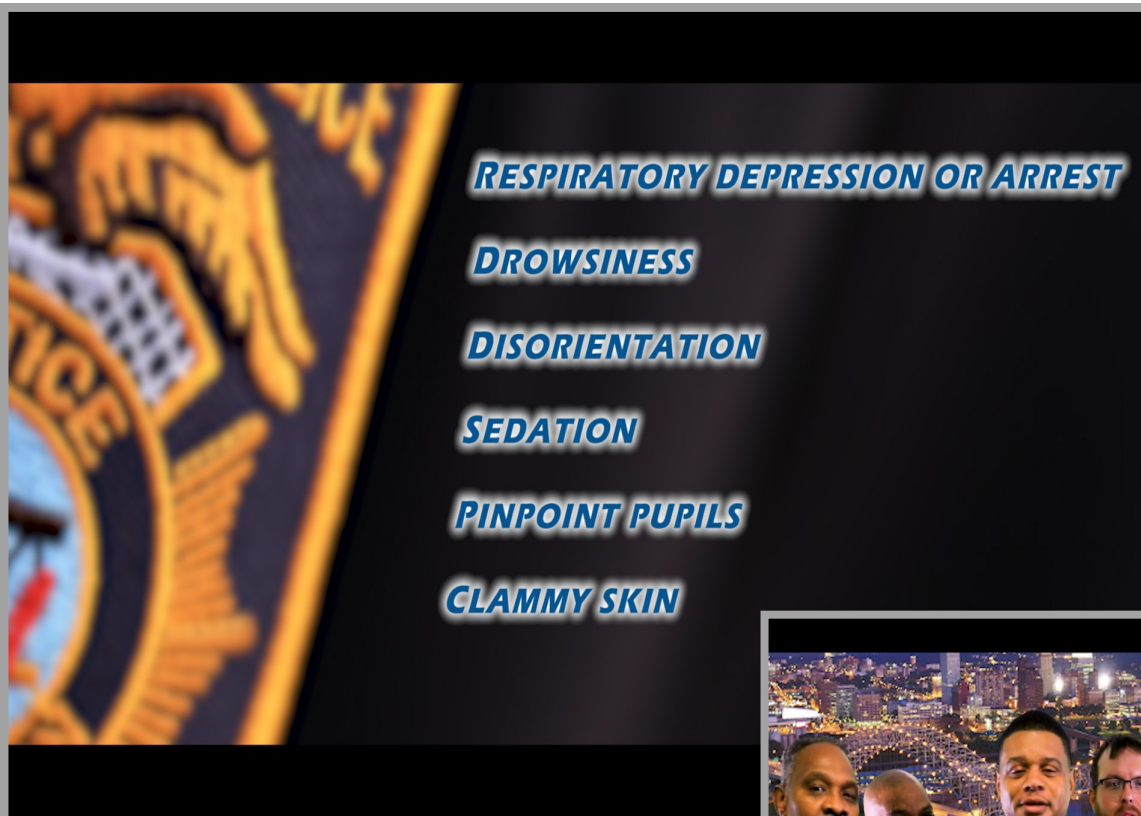
POLICE - COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



FENTANYL AND CARFENTANIL HAZARDS TO FIRST RESPONDERS

Be sure to check out the OCU ALERT video on Fentanyl and Carfentanil hazards to law enforcement and first responders @

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/k3xc58uwb1qjlnx/Fentanyl%20and%20Carfentanil%20Hazards%20to%20Law%20Enforcement.mp4?dl=0>



Crashes have a way of breaking up families!
Wear your seat belt! Wear your vest!
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COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Thank you to St. Benedict at Auburndale (SBA) for including the Memphis Police Department in their celebration of “Our Nation with Community Servers” event. Members of the command staff and officers of Applying Farms enjoyed refreshments and conversation with staff members and students at SBA.



The Woman's Exchange of Memphis hosted an appreciation luncheon to say thank you to the officers of the Memphis Police Department. Commanders and officers from various precincts were in attendance. Thank you for your continued support and to all who were involved in making this event special for MPD!



Precinct Ambassadors continue to bring smiles to officers' faces at Raines Station. These ladies went all out for "Hot Soup Friday" making sure officers walked away with a full belly of warm soup and a side of cornbread. Thank you all for the kind gesture and the continued support.



Thank you to the members of the Hollywood Community Center who held an appreciation luncheon for law enforcement and first responders. Officers enjoyed a great lunch and fellowship with the community center staff and those who attended from within the community.





Mt. Moriah Station back-to-school



What a great way to start the school year off with a back-to-school giveaway hosted by the Mt. Moriah Station! The event was filled with many kids with big smiles and happy faces as they walked into the New Testament Christian Church to receive their free backpack. Each backpack was filled with pencils, paper, notebooks, pens and much more.

Mt. Moriah Station Officers handed out over 160 backpacks full of items to help students start the school year off right!



Backpacks weren't the only things given away. Aldo's Pizza and other pantry goods were also available for families.

Mt. Moriah Station would like to thank Mapco, Walmart, Cascade Tissue Group, Aztec Missionary, Bogie's Deli, Three Little Pigs BBQ, Z-Market, Neil's Bar-n-Grill, Jason's Deli and others that contributed to this great event.

Great Job, Mt. Moriah Station!!

PROUD TO WEAR THE BADGE

On August 21, 2018, six (6) Police Radio Dispatcher Trainees from the Memphis Police Department's Emergency Communications Bureau completed their year-long training and probation period. This is the first time a graduation ceremony for Dispatchers has been held to celebrate this milestone, and they are among the first to receive a Communications Badge. The dedicated employees of the Emergency Communications Bureau answer over 3,500 police calls made in the City of Memphis each day and dispatch officers on nearly 1 million calls for service annually. To all the hard working dedicated employees of the Communications Bureau, we thank you! Congratulations to Memphis Police Radio Dispatchers Class 17-02!!



DREAM ACADEMY

The Youth Academy of Dreams is a school that wants to help keep our kids educated and safe in high crime areas. One of their goals is to help stop the cycle of kids falling into gangs and drug violence.

Our own MPD Sgt. Craig Littles is the founder of the new academy. Sgt. Littles has been involved with the community for over 20 years and has a strong vision of the success of our youth. Sgt. Littles states that, "This program is offering the youth in its community educational programs, after-school programs, sports, tutoring, mentorship; anything that deals with the involvement of our youth through positive activities. I grew up in this area, so I needed this positive outlook to keep me on track despite the negative things that were around me."

IHEARTMEMPHIS, Memphis Home Entertainer & YAOD Ambassador, also arrived at the event and talked about how important it was to give back to the community. "The best thing I had was mentors and my mom to help me keep out of trouble."

Sgt. Littles and others have worked diligently to make this dream come true.



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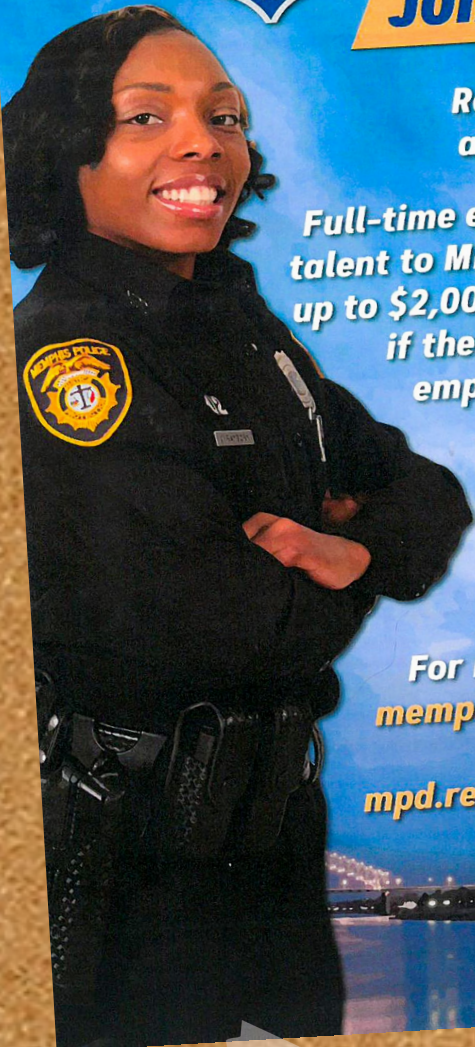
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